

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Response: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.
- After this Response: Claims 1, 3-8, 10-16, and 18-23.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: none.

Amended claims: 16.

New claims: none.

Claims:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

a file locator configured to locate an executable image on a computer media;

a file-format recognizer configured to recognize the file format of the executable image from amongst a database of multiple file format definitions, wherein the database is extensible so that additional file format definitions may be added to the database of multiple file format definitions;

a memory-mapper configured to open the executable image from the computer media and read it into a computer memory;

an importer configured to find a list of executable image names to load;

1 an exporter configured to build a representation of program modules that an
2 executable image exports;

3 a binder configured to link multiple executable images together, such
4 images being those of the list of executable image names.

6 **2. (CANCELED)**

8 **3. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the
9 importer is further configured to direct the loading of multiple executable images
10 of the list of executable image names to load

12 **4. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 1, wherein the
13 file-format recognizer is further configured to select one or more of a group of
14 available pluggable sub-loaders is capable of loading the recognized file format of
15 the executable image.

16
17 **5. (ORIGINAL)** A loader comprising a computer-readable
18 medium as recited in claim 1.
19

1 6. **(ORIGINAL)** An operating system comprising a computer-
2 readable medium as recited in claim 1.

3
4 7. **(ORIGINAL)** A computer comprising a computer-readable
5 medium as recited in claim 1.

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7 8. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A computer-readable
8 medium having computer-executable modules comprising:

9 a searcher configured to search a computer media for an executable image
10 for loading;

11 a format recognizer configured to the format of the executable image;

12 a memory-mapper configured to load and map the executable image into
13 memory based upon the format of the executable image;

14 a sub-loader configured to examine a data structure of the executable image
15 to determine whether to load additional images;

16 a database of multiple executable-image formats which is the basis for
17 which the recognizer recognizes the format of executable image and for which the
18 memory-mapper varies how it loads and maps the executable image into memory,
19 wherein the database is extensible so that additional executable-image formats
20 may be recognized by the recognizer and loaded and mapped by the memory-
21 mapper.

22
23 9. **(CANCELED)**

1 **10. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein one or
2 more modules the medium are configured to be replaced with a replacement
3 module without recompilation of one or more modules.

4
5 **11. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the
6 memory-mapper is further configured to convert the executable image before
7 mapping it into the memory.

8
9 **12. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 8, wherein the
10 memory-mapper is further configured to decrypt the executable image before
11 mapping it into the memory.

12
13 **13. (ORIGINAL)** A loader comprising a computer-readable
14 medium as recited in claim 8.

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16 **14. (ORIGINAL)** An operating system comprising a computer-
17 readable medium as recited in claim 8.

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19 **15. (ORIGINAL)** A computer comprising a computer-readable
20 medium as recited in claim 8.

1
2 **16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method for facilitating loading
3 to one or more executable images ~~a varying~~ of varying formats, the method
4 comprising:

5 locating an executable image on a computer media;

6 investigating information related to the executable image, thereby
7 identifying the format of the executable image, wherein during the investigating,
8 an extensible database of executable-image formats is accessed;

9 based upon the identified format of the image, initiating a loader associated
10 with that identified format;

11 with that loader, loading the executable image into a computer memory.

12
13 **17. (CANCELED)**

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15 **18. (ORIGINAL)** A method as recited in claim 16, wherein
16 headers of the image contains the information related to the executable image for
17 the investigating.

18
19 **19. (ORIGINAL)** A computer-readable medium having computer-
20 executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method
21 as recited in claim 16.
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1 **20. (ORIGINAL)** A computer comprising one or more computer-
2 readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by
3 the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.
4

5 **21. (ORIGINAL)** A computer-readable medium having
6 modularized computer-executable modularized sets of instructions that, when
7 executed by the computer, load one or more executable images into a computer
8 memory, such an image having one or more formats defined by an extensible
9 database of executable-image formats.
10

11 **22. (ORIGINAL)** A medium as recited in claim 21, wherein the
12 modularized sets of instructions are isolated with clean interfaces.
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14 **23. (ORIGINAL)** An operating system comprising a medium as
15 recited in claim 21.
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